

Q Is a consonant borrowed from the Latin or French, for which, though *q* is commonly placed in the Saxon alphabet, the Saxons generally used *cy*, *eo*; as *cyellan* or *cyellan*, to quell: *qu* is, in English, pronounced as by the Italians and Spaniards *cu*; as *quail*, *quench*, except *quoit*, which is spoken, according to the manner of the French, *coit*: the name of this letter is *cue*, from *queue*, French, tail; its form being that of an O with a tail.

QUAB. *n. f.* [derived, by Skinner, from *gobio*, the Latin name.] A fort of fish.

To QUACK. *v. n.* [*quacken*, Dutch, to cry as a goose.] To cry like a duck. This word is often written *quacke*, to represent the sound better.

Wild-ducks *quack* where grasshoppers did sing. *King.*

2. To chatter boastfully; to brag loudly; to talk offensively. Believe mechanick virtuosi Can raise them mountains in Potofi, Seek out for plants with signatures, To *quack* of universal cures. *Hudibras*, p. iii.

QUACK. *n. f.* [from the verb.]

1. A boastful pretender to arts which he does not understand. The change, schools and pulpits are full of *quacks*, jugglers and plagiarists. *L'Etrange.*

Some *quacks* in the art of teaching, pretend to make young gentlemen masters of the languages, before they can be masters of common sense. *Felton on the Classics.*

2. A vain boastful pretender to physick; one who proclaims his own medical abilities in publick places. At the first appearance that a French *quack* made in Paris: a little boy walked before him, publishing with a shrill voice, "My father cures all sorts of distempers;" to which the doctor added in a grave manner, "The child says true." *Addison.*

3. An artful tricking practitioner in physick. Despairing *quacks* with curses fled the place, And vile attorneys, now an useless race. *Pope.*

QUACKERY. *n. f.* [from *quack*.] Mean or bad acts in physick.

QUACKSALVER. *n. f.* [*quack* and *salve*.] One who brags of medicines or salves; a medicalist; a charlatan. Saltimbancos, *quacksalvers* and charlatans deceive the vulgar in lower degrees; were *Afop* alive, the piazza and the pont neuf could speak their fallacies. *Brown.*

Many poor country vicars, for want of other means, are driven to their shifts; to turn mountebanks, *quacksalvers* and empiricks. *Burton on Melancholy.*

QUADRAGESIMAL. *adj.* [*quadragesimal*, Fr. *quadragesima*, Latin.] Lenten; belonging to Lent; used in Lent. I have composed prayers out of the church collects, adventual, *quadragesimal*, paschal, or pentecostal. *Sanderfon.*

QUADRANGLE. *n. f.* [*quadratus* and *angulus*, Latin.] A square; a surface with four right angles. My choler being overblown With walking once about the *quadrangle*, I come to talk. *Shaksp. Henry VI.*

The *quadrangle* hath a *quadrangle* for every month in the year. *Howel.*

QUADRANGULAR. *adj.* [from *quadrangle*.] Square; having four right angles. Common salt shooteth into little crystals, coming near to a cube, sometimes into square plates, sometimes into short *quadrangular* prisms. *Grew's Cosmol.*

Each environed with a crust, conforming itself to the planes, is of a figure *quadrangular*. *Woodward.*

I was placed at a *quadrangular* table, opposite to the mace-bearer. *Spectator*, No 617.

QUADRANT. *n. f.* [*quadrans*, Lat.]

1. The fourth part; the quarter. In sixty-three years may be lost eighteen days, omitting the intercalation of one day every fourth year, allowed for this *quadrant* or six hours supernumerary. *Brown.*

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2. The quarter of a circle. The obliquity of the ecliptic to the equator, and from thence the diurnal differences of the sun's right ascensions, which finish their variations in each *quadrant* of the circle of the ecliptic, being joined to the former inequality, arising from the excentricity, makes these quarterly and seeming irregular inequalities of natural days. *Holder on Time.*

3. An instrument with which altitudes are taken. Some had compasses, others *quadrants*. *Tatler*, No 81.

Thin taper sticks must from one center part; Let these into the *quadrant's* form divide. *Gay.*

QUADRANTAL. *adj.* [from *quadrant*.] Included in the fourth part of a circle. To fill that space of dilating, proceed in straight lines, and dispose of those lines in a variety of parallels: and to do that in a *quadrantal* space, there appears but one way possible; to form all the interfections, which the branches make, with angles of forty-five degrees only. *Derham's Physico-Theol.*

QUADRATE. *adj.* [*quadratus*, Latin.]

1. Square; having four equal and parallel sides.

2. Divisible into four equal parts. The number of ten hath been extolled, as containing even, odd, long and plain, *quadrates* and cubical numbers. *Brown.*

Some tell us, that the years Moses speaks of were somewhat above the monthly year, containing in them thirty-six days, which is a number *quadrates*. *Hakewill on Providence.*

3. [*Quadrans*, Lat.] Suited; applicable. This perhaps were more properly *quadrant*. The word consumption, being applicable to a proper or improper consumption, requires a general description, *quadrates* to both. *Harvey on Consumptions.*

QUADRATE. *n. f.*

1. A square; a surface with four equal and parallel sides. And 'twixt them both a *quadrates* was the base, Proportion'd equally by seven and nine; Nine was the circle set in heaven's place, All which compacted, made a goodly diapase. *Fa. Queen.*

Whether the exact *quadrates* or the long square be the better, is not well determined; I prefer the latter, provided the length do not exceed the latitude above one third part. *Wotton.*

The powers militant That stood for heav'n, in mighty *quadrates* join'd Of union irresistible, mov'd on In silence their bright legions. *Milton.*

To our finite understanding a *quadrates*, whose diagonal is commensurate to one of the sides, is a plain contradiction. *More's Divine Dialogues.*

2. [*Quadrat*, Fr.] In astrology, an aspect of the heavenly bodies, wherein they are distant from each other ninety degrees, and the same with quartile. *Dist.*

To QUADRATE. *v. n.* [*quadrato*, Lat. *quadrer*, Fr.] To suit; to be accommodated. Aristotle's rules for Epick poetry, which he had drawn from his reflections upon Homer, cannot be supposed to *quadrates* exactly with the heroick poems, which have been made since his time; as it is plain, his rules would have been still more perfect, could he have perused the *Aeneid*. *Addison.*

QUADRATIC. *adj.* Four square; belonging to a square. *Dist.*

QUADRATIC equations. In algebra, are such as retain, on the unknown side, the square of the root or the number sought: and are of two sorts; first, simple quadratics, where the square of the unknown root is equal to the absolute number given; secondly, affected quadratics, which are such as have, between the highest power of the unknown number and the absolute number given, some intermediate power of the unknown number. *Harris.*

QUADRATURE. *n. f.* [*quadratura*, Fr. *quadratura*, Latin.]

1. The act of squaring. The speculations of algebra, the doctrine of infinites, and the *quadratures* of curves should not intrench upon our studies of morality. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

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